

REMARKS

Claims 1-117 are pending in the subject application. Claims 13-21, 24-32, 39-46 and 72-117 are deemed withdrawn. Claims 1-12, 22, 23, 33-38 and 47-71 stand rejected.

Claims 1-12, 22, 23, 33-38, and 47-71 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph because in “claim 47, line 3, ‘said mast base’ lacks antecedent basis.” Responsive to this rejection, Applicant has amended claim 47 to change “said mast base” to “said base member”.

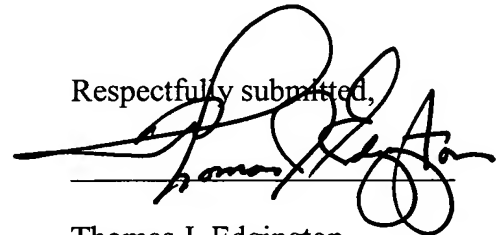
In addition, the Official Action provides that “claim 47, lines 5, 6 is confusing how the mast segments are coaxially aligned and the mast segments are not coaxially aligned”. Responsive to this statement, Applicant has amended claim 47 to clarify that “at least two of said pivotally interconnected mast segments are selectively pivotable relative to each other between positions wherein said at least two pivotably interconnected mast segments are coaxially aligned with each other and other positions wherein said at least two pivotably mast segments are not coaxially aligned relative to each other.” Applicant submits that claim 47 fully satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicant further directs the Examiner to the specification as originally filed and particularly paragraphs [00137]-[00143] which describe the articulating features of various embodiments of the present invention.

Applicant is herewith enclosing a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 11-11110 for any fees associated with that Information Disclosure Statement or Amendment.

Application No. 10/699,998
Amendment Dated June 9, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 5, 2006

Examination of the subject application and issuance of a Notice of Allowance at an early date are earnestly solicited. However, if the Examiner has any remaining concerns regarding any of the pending claims, he is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below so that those concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas J. Edgington', written over a horizontal line.

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